

Recover 63 Bodies of Men Blasted in Mellon Mine Trap

**Bourbon Keynotes
For Wall Street**
—Editorial, Page 6

Daily Worker

PEOPLES CHAMPION OF LIBERTY, PROGRESS, PEACE AND PROSPERITY

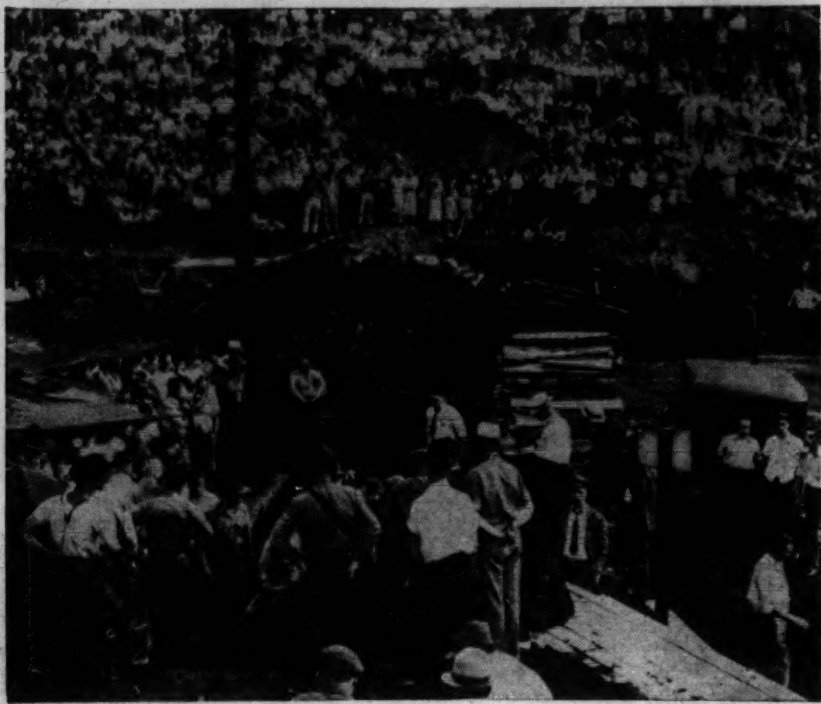
Weather
Local—Partly cloudy with moderate temperatures Wednesday; moderate northerly winds; lowest temperature tonight about 58.
Eastern New York—Wednesday fair with moderate temperatures.

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MINERS' TOMB: This scene, enacted all too often at shafts of U. S. coal mines, was repeated yesterday at the Koppers Company mine at Sonman, near Portage, Pa. The working is the property of the Mellon trust of Pittsburgh. Sixty-three are known to be dead.

Demand Inquest to Fix Blame for 63 Deaths

Unionists Are Not Satisfied With Company Explanation of Blast; Point to Inadequate Safety Measures

By DAVID LURIE
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)

PORTAGE, Pa., July 16.—Sixty-three bodies lay in the Municipal Building here this morning after the mine explosion at Sonman yesterday morning. Outside the building which had been quickly turned into a morgue, hundreds stood with the same silence and grimness with which thousands had stood outside the Sonman Mine all day yesterday and well into the early morning hours.

These thousands had gathered as soon as the news of the disaster spread with lightning speed through the mining community of Cambria County. They stood on the huge piles of "bone" which surrounded the mine entrance forming a great amphitheatre. They stood there until the bodies of the 63 miners were brought up at 2:30 A. M.

The silence and grimness of these watchers put to shame the photographers who hoped to get pictures of weeping women. Sobbing wives and relatives there were, but the tragedy which hung over the mining camp of Sonman with its 400 families and the nearby town of Portage was too great to be expressed in tears.

LAST MESSAGE
"I don't feel sick, but there's an awful rolling in my head."
The unidentified author of this note died shortly after he had written it. He was one of 63 who died.

He wrote seven notes, each timed at 15-minute to half-hour intervals from 11:15 A. M. yesterday. The last note was timed 4:45 P. M. Most of them were personal and authorities would divulge only meager extracts from them. They were attempting to identify the author so the notes can be delivered.

As the end approached, the miner wrote:
"To my daughter: be a good Catholic."
Later, he wrote, "Little son: Junior, be good to mother."
The fifth note, addressed to his wife, and the last two messages were not divulged.

DEMAND INQUEST
An immediate and insistent demand is being made by the miners for fixing the responsibility for the blast which killed the 63, the majority of them men under the age of 30. Some 42 families were affected and in two cases a father and two sons were among the dead.

There will be small comfort in the insurance carried by the men. Some of them belonged to a group insurance plan organized by the company. All of them were part of the death benefit plan of the union. The company insurance pays \$500 toward which the men pay \$1.60 a month. The union's death benefit pays \$300 but the men are only assessed twenty-five cents every two weeks for it.

But while the local union president, James Hess, was busy checking on the death benefits he told the Daily Worker that his union was going to demand an immediate in-

Blood in Europe Spells Big Profits for du Ponts

WAR PROFITS of the duPont Company have zoomed up quite a bit as a result of the blood-letting in Europe, it is revealed today by the N. Y. Times financial pages.

"DuPont's Earnings In Six Months Higher," says the headline on page 32, column 1, of yesterday's issue. "Company Cleared \$4.06 for Common Share, Compared with \$3.28 a Year Ago," the heads add.

These "common" shares produce quite de luxe incomes for the uncommon people who own them. The boom in the casualty-producing business is being shoved higher by the Roosevelt arm-to-the-teeth "peace" policy. Indeed, it is predicted that if the war and "defense" continue another year the duPonts will make a record kill in munitions business.

Curran Urges Seamen to Back Drive for Peace

Condemns Defense Council for Attempting to Take Away Labor's Right to Strike; Backs Chicago Peace Parley

Following a vigorous appeal by President Joseph Curran for full support behind the movement to keep the United States out of war, the semi-annual meeting of the National Maritime Union at Manhattan Center yesterday voted to instruct all the union's port agents to work vigorously for delegates to the great National Peace Mobilization at Chicago August 31.

Curran announced that he was invited to address the Chicago gathering and that the union was also asked to participate in the peace mobilization at Randall Island Stadium on August 4.

"I intend to accept this invitation," said Curran. "In my opinion this union should be right out in front on this issue."

Curran compared the present situation with that of 1916, also an election year, "when a president campaigned for election on an anti-war platform, while at the same time forces were conspiring behind the scenes to get us into war."

"The labor movement should not again permit the major parties to tell the American people to sleep," Curran continued. "We want peace today and we want it after the election too. The only time the labor movement can go anywhere when the country is at peace."

"We want no fascist dictatorship here and we are only about three degrees away from it."

Curran cited the anti-alien and the Bridges deportation bills which he said were designed by manufac-

Democrats Tense on Third Term Issue

Atmosphere of Wilsonian Betrayal of Peace Marks Convention

WASHINGTON, July 16 (UP).—President Roosevelt announced today that Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley will make a statement in his behalf on the third term issue to the Democratic National Convention tonight. [Barkley's statement was scheduled for about 11 P. M. Chicago time or 1 A. M. Eastern Daylight Time.]

By Adam Lapin
(Daily Worker Staff Correspondent)
CHICAGO, Ill., July 16.—The long shadow of Wilsonian betrayal hangs over the proceedings of this Democratic national convention.

With complete cynicism, the Roosevelt administration which has brought the nation to the very brink of involvement in the imperialist war in Europe prepared to don the mantle of the peace party in the 1940 election campaign.

All signs pointed to the conclusion that the drafting sub-committee of the convention Resolutions Committee will throw some ringing, and thoroughly demagogic, peace slogans into the campaign platform.

The drafting committee stayed in session late tonight working on the wording of the platform, while the convention waited breathlessly for the message concerning President Roosevelt's attitude on the third term, which is to be delivered by Senator Alben Barkley, Majority Leader in the Senate, at the conclusion of his speech tonight.

UNELECTING PARLEY
Announcement that the President would at least reveal his intentions finally put a little excitement into this hitherto listless and unenthusiastic convention.

Senator Barkley said that he had spoken to the President by telephone this afternoon, and that it would take him about a minute and a half to tell the delegates what the Chief Executive's attitude is toward the third term issue.

Barkley conferred intermittently throughout the afternoon and evening with Secretary of Commerce Harry Hopkins, who is in charge of the President's forces here, and Senator James P. Byrnes of South Carolina, one of the leading administration strategists.

One report had it that the President would state that he wishes the overwhelming majority of the delegates who are pledged to his reelection to be released from their promise and that he did not want a third term.

If the President should make this kind of statement it was expected not to kill the third term movement but on the contrary to give it at least a semblance of the spontaneity and push which it has hitherto lacked.

There were rumblings within the platform committee about the possibility that an anti-third term plank would be put forward.

OPPOSERS IN MINORITY
Senators Pat McCarron of Nevada and Burton K. Wheeler of Montana have publicly stated their opposition to a third term, while Senator Davis I. Walsh of Massa-

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(Continued on Page 2)

Last of 43 Pittsburgh Defendants Released

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 16.—Homer S. Brown, prominent Negro attorney and member of the Pennsylvania State Legislature, will be associated with Cyrus S. Davis in the defense of some of the forty-three indicted workers in the Communist petition cases, it was learned today.

Mr. Brown will be particularly concerned with the defense of those of the defendants who come from the Hill district of Pittsburgh. These include H. Joseph Filner,

candidate for Congress; Ben Carethers, candidate for State Auditor; James Deadman, Lloyd Brown and Pearl Davis. Carethers, Deadman, Brown and Pearl Davis are Negroes.

Meanwhile, today saw the release on bond of the last two of those who spent time in the county jail. These were Andy Novak and Antun Skvarje. This means that there is now none of the defendants in the jail and, as Pat Cosh, head of the

(Continued on Page 5)

Planes Again Raid Chungking

CHUNGKING, China, July 16 (UP).—Almost 100 Japanese planes bombed this Chinese capital today, causing many fires.

British RAF Blasts Vital German Bases

Raid Airdromes, Ports, Communications in Reich, Holland, France

ITALIANS BOMBED

Weather Reduces German Attacks on British Isle Cities

LONDON, July 16 (UP).—The British air force has heavily blasted German airdromes, ports and communications over a wide area of the Reich, Holland and France during the last 48 hours, the Air Ministry said tonight.

Bad weather reduced Germany's aerial attacks on the British Isles and coasts today but three raiding Nazi planes were shot down.

The British planes, operating in waves, attacked a concentration of German barges in the French channel coast in the vicinity of Armentieres and airdromes in scattered parts of northern France, it was added.

PLANE BASES

These objectives, for the most part, were bases where planes and boats were being concentrated in preparation for Adolf Hitler's threatened invasion of Britain, it was understood.

On Monday British planes attacked airdromes in Lieux and Evreux in Normandy and last night heavily bombed other Nazi-held airdromes in Norderney and De Kooy, setting fire to hangars and fuel dumps as well as planes on the ground.

In Germany, an oil refinery at Hanover was bombed as well as warehouses in Willemsoord Harbor, on the Dutch coast, a blast furnace in Hamburg in the Rhineland and a munitions plant in Dortmund.

At least 12 wireless stations in Germany, Austria, Holland, Belgium and France were closed during Monday night in apparent testimony of the widespread nature of the relentless British attacks.

An area of 600 miles from east to west and more than 250 miles from north to south was affected. Berlin, Bremen, Cologne, Frankfurt, Leipzig, Saarbrücken, Munich and Breslau in Germany; Vienna in Austria; Helversum in Holland; Brussels in Belgium and Strasbourg in occupied France closed their radio stations beginning at 10:30 P. M.

BOMB ITALIAN AIR, NAVAL BASES

CAIRO, Egypt, July 16 (UP).—British planes have bombed Italian bases at Tobruk, Bardia and El Gazala in North Africa and Diredaw and El Faldia in East Africa with heavy damage, a Royal Air Force communiqué said today.

Direct hits were claimed on two large naval oil tanks at Tobruk, where many bombs were said to have burst in the target area.

An earlier communiqué had said that British air and naval forces shot down 20 Italian planes during naval operations against the Italian fleet of Calabria, Italy, on July 9. Of this number, British pursuit planes shot down five Italian bombers and naval anti-aircraft guns were said to have accounted for 15.

London Admits Heavy Losses From Raids

Admiralty Reports Sinking of 22 Ships in Two Weeks

LONDON, July 16 (UP).—German air and submarine attacks resulted in the sinking of 22 merchant ships totaling 114,137 tons during the week ending at midnight, July 7, a figure above the average for the entire war, the Admiralty admitted today.

Of the 22 ships lost 13 were British merchantmen, totalling 75,833 tons, while six were vessels flying neutral flags and three were vessels of Britain's Allies. The neutral losses totalled 28,669 tons and the Allied 9,635 tons.

People Elect Four Communist Mayors in Four Cuban Cities

Negro Communist Leader Wins in Santiago de Cuba, Second Largest City; Havana Party Vote Increases

(Wireless to the Daily Worker)

HAVANA, Cuba, July 16.—Although final results of Sunday's elections are not yet in, incomplete figures show Colonel Fulgencio Batista elected by a landslide of 200,000 votes over Grau San Martin.

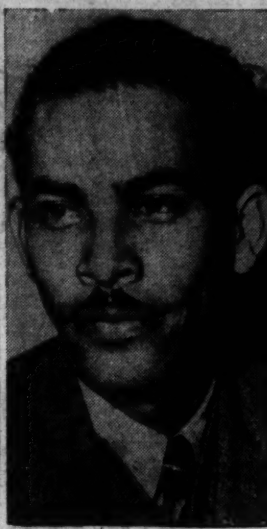
Blas Roca, general secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, and other leaders of the Union Revolucionaria Comunista in Havana and in several provinces were elected as representatives to the Chamber.

Four Communist mayors were elected: Francisco Rosales, an old militant of the working class movement and first Communist Mayor of Manzanillo; Justo Salas, leading Negro Communist, now mayor of Santiago de Cuba, second most important city in Cuba; and two other Communist mayors, one in Jamaica in the province of Oriente and the other in Palmira in the province of Santa Clara.

The election of Salas to the Mayoralty of Santiago de Cuba is of tremendous significance as he is the first Negro mayor of the capital of Oriente. He was supported by the masses of the so-called Liberal Party against the wishes of its leadership.

In Havana the number of votes polled by the Communists increased by 10,000 over the vote of the last election.

(Continued on Page 2)



BLAS ROCA

Japan Army Brings End to Tokio Cabinet

Demands Abandonment of 'Weak-Kneed' Policy Toward U. S., Britain

TOKYO, Wednesday, July 17 (UP).—The government headed by Admiral Mitsuomasa Yonai resigned late yesterday because of army opposition to its foreign and domestic policies and probably will be succeeded by a new "single party" Cabinet headed by either Prince Fumimaro Konoye or Baron Kikuchi Hiranuma.

Both Prince Konoye and Baron Hiranuma are former Premiers and said to be acceptable to extreme Nationalists who favor close cooperation with Germany and Italy and an abandonment of the "weak kneed" policy which the Yonai Cabinet was alleged to have followed towards Great Britain and the United States.

COURSE UNCERTAIN

It was still too early, in the opinion of foreign diplomats, to state definitely what course Japan will take. Indications, however, were that the trend is toward collaboration with Germany and Italy.

Resignation of the Yonai Cabinet came suddenly after War Minister Gen. Shunroku Hata had tendered his resignation as War Minister to Admiral Yonai and informed the Premier that the army would not name a successor as long as the Yonai government remained in power.

It was an old trick, often used by the army to force the downfall of a government to which it is opposed. The ministers of war and navy, traditionally are named by the armed services which always can exercise veto power by threatening to leave the posts vacant.

Admiral Yonai stepped down exactly six months after he had formed his super-party regime pledged to an effort to bring the long, undeclared war with China to an early end and patch up the empire's relations with Britain and the United States.

War Dept. Contracts for \$150 Million in Planes

WASHINGTON, July 16 (UP).—Assistant Secretary of War Louis Johnson announced tonight that contracts for \$150,000,000 worth of new army airplanes were closed between July 1 and July 13.

U. S. Opposes Closing Burma Road to China

WASHINGTON, July 16 (UP).—The United States is opposed to any agreement between the British and Japanese governments to close the Burma road into China, the State Department revealed today.

This nation's position was made clear in a formal statement issued by the department in response to numerous inquiries regarding an agreement between Japan and Britain to shut off arms traffic to the trapped Chinese armies via the Burma Road.

Smash British African Salient, Italy Reports

Rome Also Announces First Air Raid on British Palestine

ROME, July 16 (UP).—Italy today claimed her first important victory of the war in Africa with an official announcement that the 187-mile British salient of Bolo, between Italian Somaliland and Ethiopia, has been smashed in heavy fighting.

From the salient strong British forces had been striking out in repeated efforts to cut the important highway between Mogadiscio and Neghelli which is a major military artery for Italian military forces in Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland.

As a result of the sniping out of the salient, today's war communiqué said, Italian troops are advancing deeper into British Kenya. Meanwhile, Italian bombing planes were said to have badly damaged the port of Halfa in

(Continued on Page 2)

Bronx Democrats Seek To Abolish City Council

A move to abolish the City Council and the proportional representative system of voting has been launched by the Bronx Democratic Party organization, it was revealed yesterday through the circulation of petitions to place the question before voters in a referendum this fall.

Councilman Louis Cohen is leading the movement in the Bronx, which aims to re-establish the old board of aldermen as the municipal legislative body.

Some petitions are being circu-

Evacuation of Rich Children Hit in Britain

Commons Laborites Flay Failure to Include Poor Children

LONDON, July 16 (UP).—The British government was accused in the House of Commons today of attempting to "camouflage" a scheme whereby the children of wealthy families were evacuated to the United States and the Dominions while poor children were left behind in bomb threatened areas.

The allegations were made by Laborite members of Commons when Major Clement R. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, announced that the government's plan to evacuate 200,000 or more children overseas had been "postponed" because of a lack of armed naval escorts.

The government reported that although applications for the emigration of 200,000 children had been made only 20,000 offers of homes had been received from the Dominions, including Canada.

Attlee disputed Laborite allegations, saying that the postponement was ordered only "until conditions of safety improved."

Pan American Conference Is Postponed

HAVANA, Cuba, July 16 (UP).—Secretary of State M. A. Cappa said today that the Pan American conference had been postponed to July 21 "because some of the delegates will be unable to arrive in time for the opening July 20."

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Lithuanians Rush To Polls to Elect People's Gov't

Government Bans 'Marksman League,' Backer of Former Reactionary Smetona Regime; Voting in Latvia Is Heavy

KAUNAS, July 16. — Yesterday, the second day of voting for the Sejm elections, found very few people at the majority of the city polls. The major section of the population had already voted.

Those who for various reasons were not able to vote the day before, came yesterday with umbrellas and raincoats in a heavy downpour.

British Gov't Can Win War, Shaw Declares

LONDON, July 16 (UP).—George Bernard Shaw said that Britain was "in a pretty strong position" to win the war and that Germany was "in a rather desperate position."

"Of course," he added, "if we collapse as the French Government collapsed—but that was only because France had a fascist government; we have a Republican government."

"Despite this, I am entirely against people who say we are certain to win the war. The facts are that if we handle our reserves properly, Hitler doesn't have a dog's chance."

"Will we handle everything properly? That depends on the government. Anyway, if we lose we shall have done it ourselves. It won't be Hitler. If our empire is broken up, we will have broken it."

The 84-year old playwright made his prediction in an interview published by the Star in commenting on "Union Now" advertisements placed in United States newspapers by Clarence K. Streit.

[The advertisements he referred to appeared under the heading, "Defense now needs Union Now" and proposed that "the U. S. A. and the six British democracies form a federal union before it is too late." (Streit, a famous American war correspondent, is author of the book "Union Now.")]

"All that America can do is stay out, come in or go to Hitler and adopt fascism," Shaw said. "The matter of federal union will not be settled in a moment by newspaper advertisements."

"Federation is a very old type of outlook. Of course, in the end, we will have to get together."

"We cannot do anything about federation of the kind Streit suggests in the middle of a war," Shaw asserted.

Told the advertisements declared America was "in imminent danger of losing control of the sea" through Hitler's forcing the British to surrender their fleet, he added:

"That may be the American view, but we have the empire at our

Cuba Elects 4 Communist Mayors

Negro Leader Wins in Santiago de Cuba, 2nd Biggest City

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Throughout the provinces and in the interior of the Republic, the Communist vote increased tremendously.

HAILS VICTORY

Batista hailed the number of votes polled by the Union Revolutionary-Communist as one of the firmest pillars of his victory, despite the maneuvers of the reactionary forces.

In the city of Havana Raul G. Menocal, candidate of the Socialist Democratic Coalition, has a majority of 8,000 votes over the other candidate, Miguel Mariano Gomez. The elections were held normally despite quite a number of provocations and the attitude of the reactionary elements.

In a statement on the result of the elections, Blas Roca declared: "The expected victory of Batista increases our responsibilities tremendously, and must increase our efforts to advance the progressive and popular platform of Batista which cannot be carried out without the enthusiastic cooperation of the organized and united masses."

Batista's victory is being widely acclaimed among the people and in the far away regions of the island. Lithuania is being reborn.

The people who are hostile towards the New Lithuania attempted to influence the voters. They acted cunningly, in a round-about manner.

Never was so much spoken or thought about the New Lithuania in the cities and villages as during these days.

Lithuania is being reborn.

RIGA, Latvia, July 16. — Sixty-five or seventy per cent of the voters in the large industrial centers of the country—Riga, Dvinsk, Libau, Windau—had already cast their votes by midnight of July 14. Results reports that more than 85 per cent of the voters in the Latgale election district voted during the first day of the elections to the Sejm. Most active was the population of Abren county where practically all the voters cast their votes in the many polls.

KAUNAS, Lithuania, July 16. — The Lithuanian Minister of Home Affairs has issued an order that all arms and munitions which are at present in private hands be surrendered within 48 hours.

The Lithuanian government has banned the "Marksman League" (Shautilis), one of the supporters of the Smetona regime which participated in the suppression of strikes and the dispersing of demonstrations.

backs. The United States, Shaw said, has "stood by Britain pretty well, as well as they could stand at the moment, but, of course, America will have to come in with us or we will fall."

In saying that Britain and the United States would some day have to "get together," Shaw indicated that he was not thinking in terms of the present war.

Latin-American Officials To Address Refugee Rally

Consular representatives of three Latin American countries will participate in a mass meeting to commemorate the outbreak of the Spanish War on Thursday evening, July 18, at 8 P. M., at Palm Garden, 306 West 52nd Street.

The Spanish Division of the United American Spanish Aid Committee, 200 Fifth Avenue, sponsor of the meeting, announced that Consul General Hartmann of Bolivia will attend the meeting, and that Rafael de la Colina, Consul General of Mexico, and Anibal Jara Letelier, Consul General of Chile, are sending official representatives. The committee was informed by the Mexican Consul General that he is sending a special message to be read at the meeting.

The program for the meeting includes plans for city-wide support for the campaign to charter a New York Rescue Ship to save the 180,000 Spanish refugees and 4,000 International Volunteers trapped in France, Mexico, Chile, and Bolivia are among the Latin American countries which have taken steps to admit these genuine anti-fascists who face death at the hands of the Nazi-fascist powers they valiantly opposed on the battlefields of Spain.

Speakers at the meeting will include Max Bedacht, national Secretary of the International Workers Order; Armando Ramirez, secretary of the United Cigar Workers Local 275 CIO; and Mrs. Manola Sanchez, executive member of the United Women's Committee. The chairman will be Alfredo Gonzalez, secretary of the Spanish Workers Club.

Special entertainment will be provided by artists now appearing in the hit floor show at the Havana-Madrid night club, including dancers and singers. Admission to the meeting is twenty-five cents and the proceeds will be devoted to the New York Rescue Ship fund. Tickets are on sale at the office of

Blas Roca Terms Havana Conference Yankee Imperialist Attempt to Enslave the Countries of Latin America

(Special to Inter-Continental News)

HAVANA, July 16. — Declaring that the Pan-American Conference here, July 20th, is a conference "called by imperialism to fasten the chains of slavery upon the Latin American peoples," Blas Roca, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, scores this "diplomatic" attempt of American imperialism to steer the Latin American countries behind the aggressive policies of Wall Street, in an important article in Noticias de Hoy, Cuban people's paper.

Roca points out that the Havana Conference is an important development in the war drive of American imperialism.

"Yankee imperialism and its 'fifth column' propaganda in every one of the Latin American countries is the main instigator of the drive toward war," he writes. "The Wall Street magnates, the steel and oil and armament barons, the directors of the North American banks, are spreading their agents throughout the American continent to bring these countries into the orbit of war in order to ensure American world economic hegemony over its imperialist rivals, in order to spread their control and domination over the backward countries of the Western Hemisphere, in order to smash and suppress the growing national liberation and revolutionary movements of the peoples south of the Rio Grande."

"One of the most important developments in this war drive," Roca declares, "is the so-called Havana Conference of ambassadors which will be held in Havana on July 20th as the answer of Yankee imperialism to a possible British capitulation to Nazi Hitlerism."

"This conference will be the scene of a hard and furious battle of Yankee imperialism against the Latin American countries. It will also witness the struggle of American imperialist forces against their opponents, the Japanese, British and German imperialists who are attempting to gain new possessions in this hemisphere. In short, the Havana conference will be a battlefield where the various imperialist sharks will weigh their strength, will clash among themselves, and there is no doubt, clash with the forces of the national liberation movements of the Latin American countries."

"The real character of this gathering can be clearly seen in some of the proposed points of discussion."

"If, for example, we examine more closely the proposal for a so-called Economic Cartel, we find that the real issue behind it is—monopolization of the exports and imports of the Latin American countries, putting into the hands of the Yankee trusts control of the 'basic production' of the whole of America. The proposed economic cartel is neither more nor less than the extension to Latin America of the 'Equalization Board' used on Cuba during the last world war which cornered sugar production and har-

Hitler Attack Timed By New Moon, Paper Says

GRENOBLE, France, July 16 (UP).—The newspaper Le Petit Dauphinois, in a Berne dispatch, said today the German invasion of England with 600,000 troops was scheduled to start on the night of July 19, beginning of the full moon.

"Hitler believes in the movements of the stars and patterns his actions on their conjunctions," Le Petit Dauphinois said.

Smash British African Salient, Italy Reports

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Italy's first attack on British-held Palestine.

CLAIM 'RIGHT'

In connection with the attack the Fascist press and radio asserted that Italy has a "right" to exercise a protectorate over the Holy Land, now governed by Britain under a League of Nations mandate but scene of constant strife and unrest.

Italian general headquarters said that the aerial bombardment of Haifa caused fires which could be seen by Italian aviators 125 miles away.

In the reported smashing of the Bolo salient the Italians claimed to have occupied four strategic points along the base of the salient, thereby enabling the Italian forces to strike deeper into Kenya including the Moyale region.

In the Moyale sector the British were reported to have strong concentrations of troops, particularly native forces including soldiers of the army of the former emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie.

Judge Sets Fur Union Appeal Date

Unionists Told to Be Ready to Start Sentences Today

Judge Lorne Hand, of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday set July 25 for a hearing upon the appeal from the conviction of Irving Potash and five others of the International Fur and Leather Workers Union.

He refused, however, to grant bail to any but Max Kochinsky, business agent, who was sentenced to a year and a day in the recent trial.

Potash, manager of the Furriers' Joint Council; Joseph Winogradsky, assistant manager; John Vafades, manager of Greek Local 70; Louis Hachios and William Karpouzas must surrender to begin their prison terms by four o'clock this afternoon.

Potash, Vafades and Karpouzas are to serve two years each, Hachios a year and a day, and Winogradsky is to serve fifteen months.

Judge Hand listened to arguments on motions for bail Monday and yesterday. He agreed to arrange an early hearing on the appeal when both sides informed him that they are ready with their arguments. Last night Potash and Winogradsky attended their final meeting of the Furriers' Joint Council at 250 West 26th St.

There they bid goodbye to their fellow workers, some of whom have worked side by side with them for the past two decades.

The council yesterday voted to request the international office of the union that President Ben Gold be committed to supervise the affairs of the Joint Council during the coming period. It was pointed out that the coming period will be an especially important one in view of preparations to negotiate a new contract at the end of the year.



PALESTINE PORT RAIDED: The city of Haifa and its bay, target of an attack of ten Italian planes which dropped over fifty bombs in the area. One person was killed and several others, including an American, were wounded during the raid.

Democratic Parley Waits Tensely on 3rd Term Issue

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chusetts is believed to be leaning in the same direction.

It was rumored that these Senators might suggest the incorporation into this year's platform of the anti-third term plank in the 1896 Democratic platform.

While the Senators who oppose the third term are in a distinct minority on the drafting committee, they could if they wished submit a minority report and take the third term issue to the floor of the platform.

Many observers doubted, however, whether the Senators would go this far in their attempt to block a third term.

A reliable report had it that the primary purpose behind the threat of an anti-third term resolution was to increase the bargaining strength of the minority group within the Resolutions Committee on the war question.

Opposition to the third term within the Drafting Committee comes primarily from the group of isolationist Senators which has been seeking a strong "pledge" against American involvement in the war.

And since it appeared likely that the isolationist group would get the verbal pledges they are after, it was not expected that the anti-third term movement would reach the proportions of a major revolt.

WHEELER "SATISFIED"

Senator Wheeler told newspapermen that he believed the plank on the war issue would be "satisfactory." Senator Wheeler's group will probably be content if nothing at all is said in the platform about the controversial universal conscription issue.

The real source of the strength which the isolationist group on the platform committee appears to be showing is that it is meeting with no opposition from the administration, which obviously has decided to go in for some peace demagoguery of its own.

There is little doubt that the changed international situation has something to do with the fact that the administration is, publicly at

least, changing its line on the peace issue.

It is quite possible that the strong appeasement tendencies among big business, which were sharply reflected at the Republican convention, will also find increasing reflection in the Democratic Party.

But there is also little doubt that purely political campaign considerations have a lot to do with the new slogans which are being mouthed by the President and his satellites. As a matter of fact, unprincipled demagoguery in American politics has rarely before reached such heights as those represented by the manner in which both Republican and Democratic conventions have dealt with the vital issue of war or peace.

A HOT POTATO

Some Republican leaders at Philadelphia three weeks ago thought it would be smart politics to brand the Democrats as the War Party and run a rip-snorting campaign as the self-styled peace party.

But the Wall Street boys who took the Republican Party into receivership thought this would be dangerous stuff, even when intended only for campaign purposes, and the Republicans thus decided to forego the opportunity of designating itself as the peace party in favor of an ambiguous platform on the war issue with strong undertones of appeasement of the Nazi regime in Germany.

It was then that the nation's consummate politician, President Roosevelt, decided to pick up the ball muffed by the Republicans and in his last message to Congress "promised" not to send American boys to participate in European wars. The Republicans had specifically refused to make such a pledge in their platform.

No matter what the verbiage in the Democratic platform, there has certainly been no indication that there is going to be any decisive change in the dangerous war-like policies of the Roosevelt administration there has been no sign of a shift away from the suppression of civil liberties, the sacrifice of Social Security reforms for vast armaments, the appeasement of Japanese

He declared that "there is but one choice that the American people can make with honor to themselves and fidelity to the traditions and principles for which the nation was created and to which it is dedicated."

"That choice is to fight against those who would assault our territory, our independence, our ideals, or our vital interests, or anything which we are committed or pledged to defend and preserve, whether that assault is launched from a foreign source or is instigated by disloyal or subversive influence within our own borders."

Barkley's speech was replete with attacks on the utility connections of Republican Presidential candidate Wendell Willkie, such as a reference to the Philadelphia convention as "the second charge of the Light Brigade, in the heroic battle of Kilowatt."

DOOR WIDE OPEN

"It does not mean that we propose or intend to send the armed forces of this nation to the battlefields of Europe or Asia for the purpose of determining military superiority among the nations involved."

At the same time, Barkley left the door wide open for participation in the war through one loophole or another if this should appear necessary to the administration.

He declared that "there is but one choice that the American people can make with honor to themselves and fidelity to the traditions and principles for which the nation was created and to which it is dedicated."

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EXPECTS "SACRIFICES"

In an attempt to contrast the stand of the Democrats with this background of Willkie's, Barkley went out of his way to emphasize the achievements in past years of the Roosevelt administration in the way of social legislation and reform.

But Barkley also left gaping loopholes for the destruction of the very social legislation which he lauded in his speech.

"We shall expect to make sacrifices," he said; "we shall expect to forego some luxuries and conveniences."

Many observers believed that some of the deflections from Speaker William B. Bankhead's keynote speech to the convention last night was an indication of Democratic soft-pedaling of the aid-to-the-Allies issue.

Eliminated from the official text of the speech by Bankhead during the delivery was a statement to the effect that the American people are "in deepest sympathy with the British Commonwealth in its struggle for life and believe that we should furnish them every possible material assistance in our power within the limits of our law."

Bankhead asserted to newspapermen that lack of radio time was the only reason he cut this statement from the mimeographed version of his speech.



PILL BOXES IN CONNECTICUT: Concrete gun emplacements, 14 feet in diameter and 18 inches thick, which were built in New Haven for War Department inspection. The pill boxes, which can serve as bomb-proof shelters, were constructed in a single day.

Deny Injunction Against WPA Witch-Hunting

Federal Judge John W. Clancy yesterday threw out of court an application for an injunction to test the law denying Communist Party members a right to work on WPA, on the ground that less than a \$3,000 value was involved to those fired by WPA administrator Col. Brehon B. Somervell.

In refusing to consider an application for a writ restraining Somervell from firing persons because of political affiliations, Judge Clancy upheld the government's contention that the denial of civil and political rights and the right to work does not bring the value up to the necessary \$3,000 minimum in order for the case to receive consideration in a Federal court.

Laid Over

The cases originally set for hearing a week ago before William Bondy were laid over yesterday to give the government time to submit a brief and the defense to prepare a reply. The briefs were handed up to Judge Clancy, but he curtly pronounced his decision without reading them.

The cases involved are Charlotte Long, who refused to sign an affidavit submitted to her by WPA asserting that she is not a member of the Communist Party, and of George B. Carroll, who wrote across his affidavit that he is a member of the Communist Party.

Herman Rosenthal of the International Labor Defense legal staff and one of the attorneys for the two dismissed WPA workers, said several courses were being considered as next steps in the fight to force the law to a court test.

Other Steps

The case may be appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals or to the United States Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus requesting that a three-judge court be set up to hear the case.

Steps for an injunction to restrain Somervell from applying the law may be also taken in a state court. Other attorneys who represented the dismissed WPA workers were Arthur Garfield Hayes, Darwin Meserole and Samuel A. Neuberger, chairman of the I.L.D.'s legal staff, who intervened as a friend of the court.

Burial for Tallest Man

MANISTEE, Mich., July 16 (UP).—The body of Robert Wadlow, tallest man in the world, will be taken to Alton, Ill., today for burial in a specially constructed steel coffin 10 feet six inches by three feet two inches.

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Air King Strike Holds Solid in Third Month

Ranks Firm Despite AFL Recruitment of Strikebreakers

Striking workers of the Air King Radio Corp., 1623 Sixty-third St., Brooklyn, entered the third month of their walkout yesterday with their ranks holding solid.

They are striking for their right to choose the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of the CIO as their union. In the meantime, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of the A. F. of L. of which the strikers were once members, continued in efforts to supply strikebreakers.

The workers of Air King as the entire membership of the IBEW Local 1010B switched affiliation to the CIO almost unanimously. But International officials of the IBEW, insisting that the contract they had with the company belongs to them, recruited strikebreakers and gave them membership cards. Monday the strikebreakers put out "pickets" who carried a sign claiming this shop is "100 per cent union."

Employers of the remaining membership of the now defunct Local 1010B are fast signing stipulations with the CIO providing for transfer of the old contracts to Local 430 of the CIO. In one case a new agreement to replace the expired contract of Presto Recording, won wage increases of \$2 weekly for each worker and vacations with pay.

Democrats Seek to End City Council

Bronx Democrats Want End of Proportional Representation

(Continued from Page 1)

aldermen on a district basis and another outlawing the PR system of voting.

CONSIDER EARLE BILL. At the same time it was learned that the Earle County Reform bills, to abolish the five county sheriffs' offices and office of Registers and replace them by one city-wide Sheriff and Register appointed by the Mayor, have been under secret consideration in the City Council Committee on General Welfare.

Amendments to the bills have been introduced by Councilman Cohen taking power to appoint the Sheriff and Register from the Mayor and giving it to a Board of City Council Justices.

The five county sheriffs and registers are now elective posts. It is expected that the county reform measures and the amendments will be considered by the Council at a special mid-summer meeting to be called within two weeks.

Teamsters Name Wage Committee

Local 807 to Start Negotiations for a New Pact

At the last membership meeting of Local 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters held at Mecca Temple, president William Devery appointed a Wage-Scale Committee to negotiate the next contract. He named, Bob McDonough, Consolidated; Otto Shaffer, Motor Haulage; "Whitey" McCaffrey, Schreiber; Jack Rabbit, Continental; Joe Hoffmeister, Universal; Ray Stevens, L. T. Stevenson, and George Hanley, U. S. Trucking. These men come from practically the largest trucking companies in the city.

The present contract expires August 31st, 1940.

According to the I. B. T. News, organ of the rank and file, the chief demands of the membership are the 40-hour week at the prevailing rate of pay, and a clause to enable the union to reopen the agreement every 6 months to consider wages in view of the rising cost of living.

The employers have been mobilizing for weeks for a fight against paying overtime. They are demanding what is called the "flexible starting time." At present, the working day runs from 7 A. M. to 4 P. M. or from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Overtime pay starts at the end of the day regardless of the hour between the above-mentioned.

The bosses are demanding that drivers work 8 hours a day regardless of the hour of the day they start. This will eliminate overtime pay. Rank and file drivers say that they will never concede such a demand.

Kings County Sections Hold Record in Fund Drive

Communist Party sections in Kings County, inheritors of a proud record in last year's fund drive, improved upon it in the first four weeks of the 1940 campaign, it was revealed in a survey today.

Of the first fifteen sections in the fund drive, seven are in Brooklyn while only one Kings section is below the state average. The Brooklyn organizations raised \$25,000 in the first month of the drive, exceeding by far the starting pace of the previous campaign. They have now raised 32.2 per cent of their quotas.

Brooklyn organizers were today discussing how best to halt the arrival of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Peter V. Cacchione of Brooklyn, last Saturday. The best gift for the popular Communist leader, it was agreed, would be an even better fund-raising record for the next four weeks. Appraised of this sentiment, Cacchione vigorously nodded his approval.

The 1st A.D. is first among Brooklyn sections and fourth in the state, with 45 per cent of its \$5,500 already raised. Small house parties and a day's pay accounted for most

AFL Teamsters Choose Delegates For Twentieth Annual Convention

INDIANAPOLIS, July 16.—Credentials for the forthcoming International Convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablenmen, and Helpers of America were sent out to all affiliates a few days ago. The Twentieth Annual Convention opens in Washington, D. C. in Constitution Hall on Monday morning, September 9th, 1940.

The July issue of the Official Magazine of the I. B. of T. says: "This will be perhaps the most important and memorable convention

C.P. in Minnesota, N. Dakota Raise \$1,000 for Drive

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MINNEAPOLIS, July 16.—The Communist Parties of Minnesota and North Dakota have raised \$1,000 for national fund drive of the Communist Party, it was announced here today.

CORRECTION:

Minor Talks at Spain Rally Tomorrow

Brighton Beach Meeting To Honor Boys Who Died in Struggle

Robert Minor, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, will be the principal speaker Thursday evening, July 18, at a Spain Memorial meeting to be held in the Brighton Community Center, 3200 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn.

(The Daily Worker wishes to call attention to an unfortunate error in Tuesday's Daily Worker, which announced that the Brighton Beach meeting would be held last night.)

The meeting, summoned by the Communist Party of the Second Assembly District, will honor the memory of three Brighton Beach lads who gave their lives in the fight against fascism in Spain.

Comrade Minor, who was an eyewitness of the events in Spain during a large portion of the struggle, is making his first appearance in the Second Assembly District, as the Communist Party's Congressional candidate from that area, which is part of the Eighth Congressional District.

Chairman of the meeting will be Captain Leonard Lamb, a veteran of the Lincoln Brigade, who fought side by side with Pinky Rodman, Abbe Barsky and Wilfred Mendelson—the three boys in whose honor this meeting has been summoned.

Another prominent speaker will be I. B. Ballin, of the editorial staff of the Morning Freiheit, who will speak in Jewish.

Teamsters in Duluth Strike For Wage Rise

Action Taken Against Several Largest Hardware Firms

DULUTH, July 16.—General Drivers and Helpers Union, Local 346, went on strike against several of the largest hardware companies in the Northwest when these companies refused to agree on collective bargaining on the closed shop and wage increases for drivers and helpers. The Duluth Industrial Union Council voted to support the drivers' union in their strike.

Fred F. Smith, business agent of Local 346 said:

"We asked for a ten per cent increase in wages, which would give us the same amount of money for 40 hours as we were getting for the 44-hour week. And I want to point out that this is in keeping with the Wage-Hour Law in which Congress provided there should be no substantial reduction in the total weekly pay for employees affected by the Act."

Jehovah's Witnesses To Hold Parley Soon

CLEVELAND, July 16 (UP).—The national convention of Jehovah's Witnesses will be held at Detroit, July 24-28, Frederic Phier, a representative of the religious sect said today in cancelling a reservation for the use of Cleveland's public hall here.

The organization had first sought, unsuccessfully, to obtain the Ohio State Fairgrounds at Columbus for the meeting. The refusal of State officials was upheld by the courts.

Forest Fires Rage in Idaho And Montana

700 Acres Aflame; Pilot Killed While Aiding Firefighters

MISSOULA, Mont., July 16 (UP).—Fires burned through trees and underbrush in 700 forest sections of Montana, Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington today, but the forestry service said the 8,500 men fighting the flames had nearly all of them under control.

Airplanes are being used to aid the fighters and yesterday one pilot was killed and his co-pilot was injured when their plane crashed near Tub Lake in the Bitter Root Forest 25 miles west of Darby, Mont. Searchers found the body of Bob Marich, Del Olabough, the co-pilot, was badly hurt. Supplies are dropped from planes to isolated workers.

Two dangerous fires were raging in the Lochsa River Valley of the Lolo Forest, A 300 acre fire on Deadhorse Ridge in the Flathead Forest still defied a force of 375 men. Fire burned on a six-mile front in the Tally Lake sector out of control, and there was a 700-acre fire on Peter Creek in the Kanikau region of Idaho. In the Clearwater Forest the California Creek fire was out of control with a 30-mile perimeter.

Two Killed, Four Hurt In Automobile Crash

CATSKILL, N. Y., July 16 (UP).—Two New York City residents were killed and four injured in an automobile crash one mile west of Catskill last night.

Miss Olive Sloan, 13, of (292 Brook Ave.) The Bronx, and Mrs. Josephine M. Lewis, 38, of (604 Columbus Ave.) were killed when an automobile left the highway and struck a telephone pole.

Mrs. Katherine McManis, 38, of (859 South Boulevard) the Bronx was reported in serious condition in Catskill Memorial Hospital.

Sheriff Threatens C.P. Attorney in West Virginia

Attorney for the National Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party, Louis Fleischer, was threatened by Sheriff G. H. Crumpecker of Mercer County, West Virginia when he sought information from the sheriff regarding his client, a coal miner who was jailed for signing a Communist Party nominating petition and later voted in the primaries.

Attorney Fleischer was appearing for Milko Zivkovic who has been in jail since June 1st, awaiting trial for exercising his constitutional rights of signing a nominating petition, and was held without bail.

When the attorney for the jailed miner sought the required information from the sheriff in his office, the West Virginia official turned on Fleischer without any cause.

"I have no use for people who defend Communists," said Sheriff Crumpecker, "You're as bad as they are. The quicker you get out of this county, the healthier it will be for you. If anything happens to you in this county don't look to me for protection. You won't get any. Now get out of this office and get fast."

Attorney Fleischer protested and while leaving, the clerk of the court who was present at the "interview" shrugged his shoulders, apologizing for the sheriff's action. The trial of coal miner, Milko Zivkovic is set for July 25th, and if convicted is liable to one year in jail and \$1,000 fine.

First Returns

There is jubilation in the campaign headquarters of the National Campaign Committee of the Communist Party. A boy weighing 7½ pounds was born to the secretary of the committee, Peter V. Cacchione and his wife, Dorothy. This is their first child and they named him Bernard Thomas Cacchione. Both mother and child are doing well.

INITIAL BRICK IS SOUVENIR

BERNE, Ind. (UP).—Forty years ago Albert Aeschliman wrote his name on a brick while working on the construction of the Berne School. Today Aeschliman, now retired, purchased the same brick for a quarter from one of the workmen engaged in razing the building.

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Phila. C.P. Leader Is Called Before Election Board

Reeve Served with Subpoenae in Continuation of Attack Upon Communist Party's Constitutional Rights

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, July 16.—Carl Reeve, candidate for the United States Senate from Pennsylvania in the November election was today subpoenaed to appear before the County board of elections here.

Continuing the attack on the Communist Party nominating petitions which placed the party on the ballot with almost twice the required number of signatures, Reeve was asked to appear before the board on Thursday, July 18 at 1:30 A.M.

He will be asked, according to the notice left with him, "to testify to all and singular those things which you shall know, in a certain matter or proceeding pertaining to an investigation concerning election frauds and or irregularities in the matter of nomination papers filed on behalf of the Communist Party with respect to the general election to be held Tuesday, November 5, 1940."

Although the attention of the district attorney and the county commission has been called to numerous evidences of fraud and forgery on the petitions of the Democratic and Republican parties nothing is done to correct these evils.

PHILADELPHIA, July 16.—The following statement by Henry Hart, journalist, lecturer, and editor of "Direction," has just been received by the Committee for People's Rights. It is a copy of a letter sent to Mr. Morris Leeds, president, Philadelphia Board of Education.

"I was born in Philadelphia and my family has lived there or in its environs for more than two hundred years. Though I have lived in New York for many years, I retain a genuine affection for my native city and therefore am presuming to write to you about the campaign of Mr. Annenberg's newspaper (as reported by the New York Times) against persons who signed the nominating petitions of the Communist Party, and especially teachers who did so.

"To penalize these teachers, or any other persons, for exercising a right granted by the Constitution and specifically asserted, by the laws of Pennsylvania is to step off into the abyss at the bottom of which lie the broken hopes and liberties of the people of Germany, Italy and now France. The experience of these countries has proved that such illegal attacks as Mr. Annenberg's paper proposes lead inevitably to disaster. It was to avoid just such disasters that the Bill of Rights was written, and the men who wrote it did not intend it to be a mere legalistic decoration, but as a guide for just such times as the one in which we now live.

"In the microcosm of this incident (no small matter, however, to those who may be persecuted and victimized) are mirrored the forces

Curran Urges Seamen to Aid Peace Drive

N.M.U. Leader Lauds Approaching Chicago Peace Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

sory military training being prepared and preparations being made to force men from their homes?

"We are going the way Germany and Italy went. Pretty soon the military will be the only ruling class here."

Curran warned that unless the labor movement makes its voice for peace felt, the fate of France awaits the United States.

"We should not be weak, any longer," he said, "or else the same thing will happen here that happened in France, where the workers were sold out by the manufacturers and other fascist groups."

"The workers are ready to fight for this country. They are ready to defend it. But they are certainly not going to defend those who are doing what was done in Germany."

Curran cited the role of the National Defense Council in blocking unions from striking and at the same time maneuvering settlement of labor disputes on very small concessions. In respect to the settlement involving the aluminum workers he said:

"For two cents they lost their right to strike."

The Aluminum union voted to strike but finally compromised on a two cent hourly raise.

He further assailed the administration for adding hundreds to the F. B. I. rolls "for the purpose of spying on labor leaders."

"We want peace and we are ready to fight for it," he said. "We want security, and we are ready to fight for it. We want unemployment insurance, and American wages and American conditions on American ships."

FIVE DAY SESSION

Yesterday was second of five days to be devoted to the Council's session.

In another report yesterday, William Standard, attorney for the union, urged the Council to continue its fight for HR 9798, a bill providing unemployment insurance for seamen, and to resist amendments of shipowners to HR 6881, aiming to deprive seamen of a right to sue for disability compensation and cut down his weekly allowance to about half of the amount possible under the present law.

He said that the shipowners took advantage of the present war hysteria to push through this change.

M. Hadley Stone, newly elected treasurer of union, delivered a comprehensive report on the financial situation in the organization.

The council yesterday voted to give full support to the Bridges Defense Committee fighting against deportation of the West Coast leader.

Mayor Scraps Low Rent Housing Drive

Switches Slum Clearance Into Bankers, Big Real Estate Men

New York City's low rent housing program—launched more than two years ago by the first City Council as the most progressive slum clearance program in the country—was tossed into the hands of bankers, real estate sharks and foes of government housing yesterday during a conference called at World's Fair City Hall by Mayor LaGuardia.

The Mayor met with a group of 25 business men, bankers and public housing officials to discuss the next steps in slum clearance and, from what leaked out of the conference, they decided to water down the public housing program to a proposition of catch-as-catch-can private building.

As outlined by the close-lipped conferees, the plan for future housing will be one of building of profit-making limited dividends housing projects to take the place of government subsidized low-rent homes for the poor.

SILENT ON TALK

None of the conferees would discuss in detail plans gone over in the Mayor's office, but it was explained they proposed a private building enterprise with limited dividends on sites not yet selected. Projects of a similar nature have been constructed in the city—the medium-rent Knickerbocker Village houses operated with Gestapo-like discrimination against tenants being a classical example of this type of slum clearance.

According to Henry Bruere, president of the Bowery Savings Bank, one of the conferees, the plan is still quite ambiguous. He said, however, that his colleagues hoped to construct the limited dividend project near the sites of present federal and city low-rent houses.

Among those who met with the Mayor to discuss slum clearance were, besides banker Bruere, Park Commissioner Robert Moses, State Housing Authority Chairman Louis Weinfeld, State Insurance Commissioner Louis Pink and New York City Housing Authority Chairman Gerard Swope.

Bullitt to See Roosevelt On War Situation

LISBON, July 16 (UP).—United States Ambassador to France William C. Bullitt left for New York aboard a Pan-American Airways clipper today. Bullitt will go to Washington to report to President Roosevelt.

He said that before the departure of the government Paul Reynaud, then Premier, asked him to negotiate a bloodless occupation.

Before he left Paris, Bullitt said, he received a visit from representatives of the German command who paid him their official respects.

Recover 63 Bodies in Mine Blast; Unionists Demand Blame Be Fixed

(Continued from Page 1)

vestigation in order to fix the responsibility of the disaster.

While not yet definitely ascertained, it is highly probable that some of the dead were members of the International Workers Order which has three strong lodges in Portage.

WANT INSPECTOR'S REPORT

"We are asking for the last report of the safety inspector," Hess declared. "We are not convinced that it was a gas explosion."

Hess referred to the two explanations for disaster which are being made. While company officials, including L. C. Campbell, assistant to the vice-president of the Koppers Corporation, a Mellon concern which operates the Sonman mine, flatly declared that the disaster was caused by a gas explosion, many miners including members of the rescue squad consider that it was a dust explosion.

If so, the explosion is clearly a result of company negligence and shows that there has been insufficient spraying with rock dust to prevent dust explosion.

But even if the explosion was caused by gas alone, there is strong probability of company guilt. The explosion was confined to three headings, the 16th, 17th and 18th right entries, and did not affect the rest of the mine. This seems to indicate an accumulation of gas, if gas was the cause, as a result of insufficient ventilation and lack of breath-work, and that would be caused by sacrificing of safety for overhead costs by the company.

OLD MINE

The mine is an old working, over 40 years old, and is in the heart of the central Pennsylvania bituminous area, a region which is not as profitable as in former years. One reason for this is the low productive capacity of the mines, as compared with other soft coal regions, because of the "low" character of these seams and the large amount of impurities. Thus, it is declared

Mine Inspection Bill Buried by Owners Lobby

The Neeley-Keller Bill, authorizing inspectors of the U. S. Bureau of Mines to inspect a mine over the objection of an owner, is still sleeping in the pigeonholes of the House Mines and Mining Committee. The powerful lobby of the mine owners has put its "No" upon the measure and despite delegations of the United Mine Workers and three major disasters since the bill was

submitted, it continues to collect dust.

The Senate has passed the bill with only one dissenting vote. Its passage would force inspection of many danger spots, and force owners to pay more attention to safeguards, at least as required by law. But they howl that an inspector who steps into a mine without the owner's permission is "intruding upon private property."

Questioned as to the mine's safety, Hess told the Daily Worker that his local had been supporting the Neely Federal Mine Inspection bill "right along and now more so."

The Neely Bill has passed the Senate but has been buried in the House Mines Committee. The bill, sponsored by the United Mine Workers, calls for Federal inspection of mines. Speaking of the bill at Monongah, W. Va., last April 1, John L. Lewis declared that the bill was needed so that "the question of enforcing that law of safety in the coal mine may not be left to the disposition of a man who, though a state inspector, or in charge of state inspectors, may be more responsive to the political influence which created him than his desire to avoid the killing of men in the coal mines of America."

THIRD DISASTER

The Sonman disaster is the third in the Tri-state bituminous area since January of this year. Ninety-one miners were killed at Bartley, W. Va., on January 10 when mine No. 1 of the Pond Creek Pocahontas Company was blasted, and 72 men were killed in an explosion in

the Hans Coal Co. mine at Willows Grove, Ohio, on March 16.

Speaking of the staggering total of deaths in mines in this country as a result of inadequate safety measures, Lewis said in his April 1 speech:

"In the last thirty years, the coal industry has killed fifty thousand mine workers and has injured three and one half million, a record approached by no civilized country in the world; because America kills and injures in its coal mines four times the number of men per million tons mined and per man-hour exposure than the local mine industry of England, of France, of Germany, or any other civilized land, and I say that it is time for the Congress to stop the butchery of Americans in the coal mines."

Sixty-three more deaths must now be added to the toll listed by John L. Lewis in mining camps and mining towns. Today there are two great problems which account for the grim anger of the miners and their wives, the problems of unemployment and of disasters. Each disaster may, of course, be accounted an accident, but each such accident may also be prevented.

SKIMPING ON SAFETY

The two problems go hand and hand. In the Sonman mine, for instance, there is little mechanization. Only ten per cent of the coal is loaded by machine. This is common throughout the central Pennsylvania area where the character of the coal seams makes mechanization impractical. Where the machines have been put in, at least five men do the work of fifteen. But in Sonman, where there are only two conveyors in use, it is thought that the company has sought to make up for the low productivity by skimping on safety.

It will, of course, be some time before the Mine Safety Bureau will be able to make a report.

But 63 men are dead in the third great disaster since January in this region.

The miners want to know why something isn't done about it.

A REPORT on the First Month of the FUND DRIVE

JUNE 15--JULY 15

Over a month ago, State conventions of the Communist Party voted enthusiastically to launch fund drives out of which they would contribute to the Daily Worker and the national election campaign. Their pledges toward meeting our national needs total approximately \$250,000.

At the end of the first four weeks of the State drives, which began on June 15th, the Daily Worker and the national election campaign committee received nearly \$50,000, or approximately 20 per cent of what is needed. In addition, the Young Communist League sent in \$1,307.47.

This is a good start. But it must be noted that New York contributed the bulk of the funds, indicating that with few exceptions, the drive has not gained momentum in the nation as a whole.

We want particularly to thank and congratulate the membership and leadership of our Party in New York, Ohio and Maryland. They demonstrate that the proper organization of the fund drive plus a bold approach produce the necessary results.

The following State organizations have contributed.

NEW YORK At the end of four record-breaking weeks, the Party members in the Empire State have raised over \$79,000. They pledged \$85,000 to the Daily Worker and \$50,000 to the national election campaign and have already turned over \$40,000. Notwithstanding this excellent performance, the drive is still uneven and too narrow.

OHIO At the start of the drive, Ohio pledged \$2,000 by July 5th. On July 5th we received the check. Subsequently, the Ohioans pledged \$2,000 more by July 29th. It would not surprise us if the check on July 29th reads for \$3,000. "Let me add a personal opinion about the fund drive," writes Andrew R. Onda of Cleveland. "It will click. Now the job is to go to the masses." Right. And that goes for New York too.

MARYLAND When the Daily Worker Building was bombed, Albert Blumberg, state secretary, pledged \$500 as an answer to the outrage. We received the money—on time. This check was followed by another for \$500. That leaves \$2,000 to go.

NEW JERSEY Having sent in \$750 on a \$5,000 quota, New Jersey is a little below the 20 per cent average. Next month should find it above the average.

ILLINOIS The pledge of \$4,000 by July 4 has not been kept. To date, we have received only \$600—which is far below the average. Illinois has a fighting Communist Party—a courageous and militant working class. We expect much more.

PHILADELPHIA Nine hundred and eighty-eight dollars is not enough. It is less than 10 per cent of your pledge to the "Daily" and the election campaign committee. The membership should re-evaluate the vital importance of national work and act accordingly.

DETROIT We are in receipt of \$543.82. This is somewhat disappointing in view of the proud record made by the Michigan Party in the campaign to put the Party on the ballot. Mass work and fund-raising are indivisible. We therefore expect excellence in both.

PITTSBURGH Although the Western Pennsylvania organization is on the firing line defending civil rights against the combine attacks of Federal, State and local officials, it has already sent in \$350. The basis for a successful fund drive lies in the mass support which the Party is gaining among the workers of the state.

MASSACHUSETTS The first state outside of New York to respond to the national needs of the Party, Massachusetts has maintained a lengthy silence after having sent in \$1,100 on \$10,000 quota. Massachusetts did well in the defense fund campaign and will undoubtedly do as well in the current drive. But the time element is important. Is it being sufficiently emphasized?

MISSOURI The Missourians adopted a quota of \$2,000 for national work and set July 15 as their half-way mark. "We can no longer work according to old standards which have now become like outworn means of transportation," their fund drive bulletin declares. "Our work must be viewed in terms of speed and events today." Correct sentiments. But we have received only \$500 to date.

WISCONSIN From Wisconsin comes a first installment of \$350 on a \$5,000 quota. Outside of Milwaukee, the drive cannot be regarded as having gotten underway. How about it, Racine, Madison, Superior, Hurley, Beloit and others?

MINNESOTA The \$150 which Minnesota has sent in was raised mainly by the rural membership. Carl Winters writes that many farmers are speedily converting their produce into cash, often at a sacrifice, in order to contribute to the anti-war fund now.

CALIFORNIA, SEATTLE, CONNECTICUT—No word.

We consider this report with a brief plea that all State organizations complete 50% of their quota by August 15th. Take the necessary organizational steps to guarantee this. The character of the times demands speed, speed and more speed.

Complete the day's pay program. Take the campaign to the people through individual solicitations, through meetings with sympathizers, through parties and outings, through the coupon books.

Every contributor a fund-raiser! Every fund-raiser a contributor!

Signed:

DAILY WORKER

National Election Campaign Committee



KICKED OUT:

At Monday night's meeting of Sheepshead Bay tenants who are fighting eviction from their homes to make way for highway project: women tenants in the back row (upper); typical householder (lower left); Joseph Arnao, neighborhood club leader, tells Frank Valenti, landlord: "I don't like two-faced people, while Oscar Albert, City-Wide Tenants Council attorney, looks on (lower right)."

250 Brooklyn Tenants Fight Eviction Threat

Sheepshead Bay Families, Facing Ouster to Make Way for New Highway, Angered at Stand of Mayor

By Ann Rivington

Indignant tenants of the Sheepshead Bay district of Brooklyn, where 250 families are being evicted by the city to make way for the construction of a link of the Belt Highway, voiced their anger at the mayor's refusal to see their delegation last Friday, and made plans for further militant action in a meeting at 1612 Sheepshead Bay Road on Monday night. The delegation last Friday, consisting of fifty women, most of whom were present at last night's meeting, had called on the mayor, who refused to see them, and had later visited Mr. Hitchkiss, assistant to Commissioner. With them went Charles Peterson, representing the Sheepshead Bay Committee of the City-Wide Tenants Council and Frank Valenti, chairman of the Sheepshead Bay Civic Association.

Mr. Hitchkiss, during the interview, in which he refused to speak with any except Mr. Peterson and Mr. Valenti, refused to deal with the tenants' Council and in a dictatorial manner expressed himself as in favor of an immediate eviction. Mr. Valenti, who is a big property-owner in Sheepshead Bay, came to his assistance with a rebuffing attack on the Council, and promptly agreed that a blanket stay of eviction was a bad idea after all, in fact that immediate eviction was undoubtedly very desirable.

At Monday night's meeting, at which Mr. Valenti was chairman, Charles Peterson gave a vivid description of the conference at the Commissioner's office, and Mr. Valenti's red-baiting part of it. He described how Mr. Valenti had attacked as a Communist, James Burger, educational director of the Tenants Council, who had spoken at a previous Sheepshead Bay meeting.

"We don't care if he's a Communist or not! We're not interested in politics. But he was trying to help us!" someone in the audience shouted.

Cries of "Where are we going to live?" "We want rooms!" "We haven't any money to move!" came from the indignant tenants.

Mr. Valenti assured them that he had really done his best, that he had simply tried to use "sugar" on the administration instead of threats.

A young woman in the audience spoke up. "Without any reflection on you, Mr. Valenti, our boy friend Mr. Chamberlain also used sugar with Mr. Hitler." The laughter drowned out Mr. Valenti's reply.

ITALIAN LEADER SPEAKS

Joseph Arnao, president of the Sheepshead Bay Italian-American Social Club, twelve of whose members are being evicted, took the floor to say that he considered the treatment of the tenants disgraceful, and that any time he had spent, or would spend, helping in their fight was not wasted. He called for concrete action.

Oscar Albert, attorney for the City-Wide Tenants Council, expressed the policy of that organization as "housing according to the American standard of living, so that 'God Bless Our Home' will really mean something." He suggested immediate application for a blanket stay till September 1, and recommended a series of actions to bring further pressure on the administration. "To abandon collective action is to abandon all we could gain by it," he said. The meeting applauded with enthusiasm.

At Mr. Arnao's suggestion, it was decided to send Mayor La Guardia a telegram, telling him that a delegation of a hundred tenants would be at the World's Fair City Hall at eleven o'clock this morning, expecting to discuss their grievances with him. It was decided that Mr. Arnao and Mr. Peterson should both go along, and that Mr. Valenti could go too, if he wanted to.

Several of the women tenants, most of whom are of Irish and Italian stock, and residents of the Sheepshead Bay area for many years, gave this reporter statements on how they felt about the eviction.

LOSES SECOND HOME

Mrs. John Perry, of Plum Beach, said, "This is the second bungalow the city has taken away from me. It is my 38th year living on Plum Beach. I think this kind of thing is shameful."

Said Mrs. Celantano, who lives at 2792 East 26th St., "I've looked all through Bay Ridge and every place, and I can't find a place to live. I'm going crazy with all the worry."

Mrs. A. Pages, of 4017 Nostrand Avenue, spoke indignantly. "With no money, how can you move? I tell you, it's like Hitler. What he did to the Jews, they're trying to do to us!"

Frank Valenti, when asked for a statement, answered at first, "I have nothing to say—nothing at all to say." Later, however, he changed his mind and suggested, "Of course, it would be nice if we could get these people a stay!"

Joseph Arnao told us, "I think it's an outrage the way the people of Sheepshead Bay have been treated. Something should have been done about it before. Now, it's all a matter of pressure. I'm in full accord with the program of the City-Wide Tenants Council."

The tenants will hold another meeting tomorrow night, at which they will discuss further action in their fight for a stay.

Jewish Youth Call B'klyn Rally Tonight

To Tell Rabbi Wise 'Disbanded' Clubs Are 'Not Extinct'

"A Program of Action for America's Young Jewry" will be the topic of a meeting to be held tonight at the Boro Park Jewish Center, 40th St. and Fort Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn, at 8:30.

The meeting, called by the Reorganizing Committee of the Boro Park Youth Division of the American Jewish Congress, was called in answer to Rabbi Stephen S. Wise "disbanding" of the Youth Division of the American Jewish Congress. A leaflet advertising the meeting referred to the action of Mr. Wise, who is president of the American Jewish Congress, as a futile attempt to "declare non-existent approximately one thousand young Jewish men and women."

"These one thousand men and women, in some twenty clubs in New York City, have not become extinct," the leaflet emphasized. "They are very much alive and fighting to protect those rights that we, as American Jews, cherish so dearly."

"We, in Boro Park, want to see an American Jewish Congress Youth Division flourish with hundreds of young Jews joining hands to fight anti-Semitism and economic discrimination, and to keep America out of the European war."

Samuel K. Freedman, national executive secretary of the Youth Division of the American Jewish Congress, will be the main speaker at tonight's meeting.

Willkie and Iowa Gov. To Talk Farm Problems

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., July 16 (UP).—Wendell L. Willkie announced today that he expected to confer soon with Gov. George Wilson of Iowa and others about the farm problem.

The Republican presidential nominee said that he had telephoned Willkie and invited him to Colorado Springs this week.

Rain, Low Temperature Retard Crops This Year

ALBANY July 16 (UP).—Frequent rainfalls and unusually low temperatures are retarding this year's crops, according to a Federal-State Agricultural report.

"The situation at present is in marked contrast to 1939 when drought was menacing a large part of the state," the report said.

FIRE STATION FIRE HAZARD NEWBURYPORT, Mass. (UP).

Acting on city council orders, Fire Chief C. Frank Creeden compiled a list of buildings that were fire hazards. Topping the list was one of the city-owned fire stations.

Workers Alliance to Give Testimonial for Wiseman

Occasion Will Honor Unemployed Leader for His 20 Years of Fighting Activities

The Workers Alliance of Greater New York has arranged a testimonial buffet for its leader Sam Wiseman, Saturday evening at Caravan Hall, 110 East 59th St.

The occasion will mark 20 years of active work and leadership in the labor movement by Wiseman, yet the birthday is only the 39th.

The occasion comes at a moment when the Alliance, especially Wiseman, are under fire of new attacks by the reactionaries, this time with Mr. Roosevelt's administration in their forefront.

Wiseman looked back to his 20 years activity in the workers' ranks and thought of the many times the organizations he has led have been under fire.

"We have come out stronger and better equipped to carry on the fight each time," he said.

The first half of his first score has been in organizations of widely divergent industries—in needle, mining, steel, food textile. In each he recalls important events and experiences.

THE HOOVER DAYS

But it is the second ten years that have particularly endeared him to the jobless of New York. He has devoted that entire period, almost uninterruptedly, as head of New York's unemployed.

He combines the experience of the unemployed from the very first days of the crisis—the Hoover apple selling and charity standard era, the advent of the Roosevelt "New Deal" and yearly disappointments with it, the short-lived New Deal progressivism, and the present day turn about to a policy of reaction and war economy.

He has led employed since the first hunger marches, as head of the Unemployment Councils of New York.

"My first part in respect to the unemployed movement came during



FIRST BENEFIT: Lewis Merrill, president of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, is seen receiving the first application for hospitalization from a union member. Under a new plan just adopted, 45,000 members in 85 locals throughout the country will receive unlimited hospitalization.

Office Union Starts Group Hospitalization

45,000 Members in 85 Locals Throughout Country to Enjoy Unlimited Hospital Service Under Plan Adopted by Executive Board

One of the first examples of group hospitalization on a national scale is being sponsored by the United Office and Professional Workers of America, an affiliate of the CIO with 45,000 members and 85 locals in the principal cities of the United States and Canada. To this big membership the union executive board has made available a flexible hospital service which will operate in any section of the country.

Underwritten by a large national insurance organization which specializes in this sort of work, the plan allows the insured union member to choose any hospital he likes. Benefits are paid directly to the member, or to the hospital if he so desires.

For the first 30 days of hospitalization these benefits are large enough to cover simply regular hospital costs. If hospitalization lasts longer, payments at half the rate of the original sum continue regularly for the next five months.

NO LIMITATIONS

In addition, the UOPWA hospital service plan provides a substantial sum for anesthetics, operating room, X-ray and other charges; gives maternity benefits to any female member; places no restrictions on length of hospitalization for tonsils, adenoids or appendix cases; and allows hospitalization for those with communicable diseases, pulmonary tuberculosis and functional or nervous disorders.

In a letter announcing the plan to officers of the local branches of the union, Lewis Merrill, international president of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, stated:

"On the basis of a unanimous vote of approval by the General Executive Board, we are recommending to the membership the

defense committee, remarked, "We've got the problem of bail practically licked." Only a few of the forty-three workers remain to be released on bail and these are all workers who are out of the state. As soon as they return they are expected to appear at the District Attorney's office with ready bail.

"When Andy Park started his blitzkrieg less than a week and a half back," George Powers, district secretary of the Party and one of those indicted and jailed, declared, "there were many who thought that the leadership of the Communist Party was going to be stuck in jail until the court sessions in September. They didn't think we could raise the bail, they reminded us of the old saying 'ball set, ain't ball raised.' But we succeeded in getting the bail reduced, although it was a hard and gradual process, and we succeeded in raising the bail, which amounts to more than \$150,000. At the same time we went on the radio twice in one week, we issued leaflets, we carried on our work. We defied the blitzkrieg with a whirlwind campaign all our own, which testifies to the reason why the Andy Parks of this world want to smash us."

GWYNN ON RADIO

Meanwhile, District Attorney Park has begun the process of manufacturing reputations once more. He has set up stations throughout the county and invited all petition signers who were not subpoenaed by the grand jury to come forward and repudiate their signatures. It is not yet known, however, whether he hopes to use this for more indictments.

This latest action by Park will be discussed in some detail this Friday night, July 19, when Charles Gwynn, Chairman of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania released from jail yesterday, will speak over station KQV at 7:15 P.M. Daylight Saving Time. Gwynn will deal with the nominating petitions cases and with the developing campaign against the invasion of civil rights which the indictments represent.

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Dr. Neff Appointed Head Of N.Y. Peace Committee

Dr. Walter S. Neff, a member of the Psychology Department of the College of the City of New York, was today appointed executive secretary of the Emergency Peace Mobilization Committee of Greater New York.

Dr. Neff will direct the Committee's activities to rally support for the forthcoming nation-wide Peace Mobilization at Chicago on Aug. 31, and the People's Rally for Peace, which is to take place at Randall's Island Stadium on Sunday, Aug. 4, at 2 P. M.

The committee today sent letters to three thousand New York civic, church, fraternal and labor organizations, inviting their immediate support for its program of activities. Setting forth its purposes as "to defend America, to keep America democratic, to keep America at peace," the Committee asserted "the crisis facing our country affects all parts of the population alike," and asked full cooperation in "an effective emergency program to defend the welfare of the people of America."

As part of this program, the Emergency Peace Mobilization Committee urged all organizations to support the People's Rally for Peace at Randall's Island Stadium, and to elect delegates to the Chicago Mobilization.

Suicide Mother Buried Beside Her Children

With the burial today in St. Raymond's cemetery, of Louise Nicolsa, suicide-victim of life on relief under the war-hunger budget, beside the bodies of her six children whose lives were also snuffed out by her act of desperation, came to an end the most grimly tragic story of unemployment this far in New York in 1940.

Mrs. Nicolsa turned on the gas in their tiny flat at 2434 Eastchester Road some time early last Wednesday morning while the children, carefully washed and tucked away the night before, were still sleeping, and Mr. Nicolsa was away visiting his sick mother. When neighbors found them, the children were already dead and Mrs. Nicolsa was unconscious.

Mrs. Nicolsa not only was depressed by poverty, overwork and worry—she was suffering from ulcers of the stomach, which required for their cure a diet not obtainable on the relief pittance the family received. The neighbors said she was "a very sick woman."

She did not rally, after she was taken to the hospital, and to the moment of her death, early Sunday morning, she was unconscious and unable even to recognize her husband when he came to see her.

Mr. Nicolsa, weeping beside his wife's grave yesterday, said, "You have gone to be with the children, but I am left alone."

WIFE ASKS CUSTODY OF DOGS

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UP).—Mrs. Lotus McMurtrie made an unusual request when she applied for divorce on the grounds of cruelty. She asked for the custody of 20 St. Bernard and Great Dane dogs.

SUMMER CLEARANCE BOOK SALE

SAVINGS UP TO 70%

Workers Bookshop
50 E. 13th St., N.Y.C.
AL 4-6953
Open 9:30 A.M. - 9 P.M.
Send for a Sale List!

Help Send Rescue Ships!
AMERICAN SOLIDARITY FESTIVAL
For Spanish Refugees and International Volunteers

• FREE SWIMMING
• BEAUTY CONTEST
• ENTERTAINMENT
• CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
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• FOLK CHORUSES
• REFRESHMENTS

Tickets... 49c
FREE BUS FROM FERRY

DIRECTIONS: Take ferry from Battery to St. George and meet our Free Bus, or Bus No. R 101 to Richmond Ave.

ALL DAY DANCING TO
WILBERT GRIFFITH'S SWING BAND
and **SIBONEY RHUMBA BAND**

EMPIRE BEACH PARK
Hylan Blvd. and Richmond Ave. Staten Island

Sunday, July 21st
TICKETS: N. Y. Chapter, United American Spanish Aid Committee, Room 810, 200 Fifth Avenue, GRamercy 5-7607; Workers Bookshop, 50 E. 13th St., and Bookfair, 133 W. 44th St.

CERTIFICATE
Ballad for Americans

I understand that 7 of these certificates CONSECUTIVELY NUMBERED, entitled me to a complete recording of "Ballad of Americans" as sung by Charles Welch and the American Singers. MAIL: To receive recording by mail, enclose certificate and money (stamps, check, cash, or money order). ADD 25 CENTS TO COVER COST OF POSTAGE AND SPECIAL PACKAGING.

The Sunday Worker Certificate Counts for Three
DAILY WORKER
50 East 13th Street New York City **No. 2**

CERTIFICATES CAN BE REDEEMED AT: Daily Worker, 50 East 13th St.; Eric Bernay's Music Room, 123 West 44th St.; Bloomfield's Music Shop, 118 East 14th St.; O. Fagan & Bros., 330 Breckler St.; By Bloomfield's, 825 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn.

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50 East 13th Street New York City **No. 2**



SUMMER CLOTHES: With or without the skirt, this candy striped cotton playsuit is cool at all times. The basque-type blouse has extremely wide corded shoulders and shiny metal buttons. The shorts are plainly cut with novelty patch pockets and the full circular skirt is shirred to a wide high waistband. The colorful cotton pompons may be worn with the belt or as a hair ornament.

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3 months, \$3.50; 1 month, 75 cents.
Foreign and Canada—1 year, \$9.00; 6 months, \$5.00.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1940

A Bourbon Keynotes for A Wall Street Party

It is in keeping with the entire character of the Democratic Party convention that its keynoter was a Southern Bourbon.

When Speaker William Bankhead orated about Thomas Jefferson as standing for "equal rights to all men and special privileges to none," there was a callous irony involved in those words. Bankhead hales from Alabama, the state of the Scottsboro frame-up and the state where 90 per cent of its population are defrauded of the franchise.

In line with such a speaker, the keynote address established the essential unity of the Republican and Democratic parties. Bankhead proclaimed such to be the case, when he pleaded for "unity and solidarity of purpose" between the two Wall Street political expressions.

On domestic policies, the address could only harken back to the past—a past which the Democratic Party and the White House are strenuously opposing in their present activities. Even on the bank holiday, Bankhead's words had a hollow sound when it is appreciated that today the Roosevelt administration is permitting the same orgy of profits and lowering of real wages which led to the Hoover debacle.

The keynoter was careful to mention that there were 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 unemployed when Roosevelt came into office. He was also careful to omit mention of the more than 10,000,000 jobless today. "It would have been a heartless and cruel omission of duty to have been indifferent to their necessities," he averred—conveniently overlooking the "heartless and cruel" conduct of the Democratic Party toward the unemployed in 1940.

There was no promise for the future in the entire wordy address—no hint except of abject service to Wall Street in the "red-hunt" which the Bourbons fervidly pledged.

As to international affairs, there was more than irony in the strained effort which the Alabamian made to throw about the White House the mantle of peace. When we consider Roosevelt's hectic efforts to get us into the war, there is a Woodrow Wilson insincerity in the Democratic "peace" talk of the present moment.

At a time when opposition to entry into the war is at its highest pitch among the people, such demagogic statements are considered to be good vote-getting frauds. The Republican and Democratic parties alike will continue aid to British imperialism—upon which Bankhead said nary a word—and will try at the same time to out-vie each other in loose talk about "peace."

The imperialist aims of the Democratic Party could not be concealed, and Bankhead brought them out in his threat to the Latin American republics. Couched in the usual statesmanlike verbiage, these words about "consolidating that policy on this hemisphere" mean nothing more nor less than the subjugation of the nations to the south of us for the benefit of Wall Street.

In thorough accordance with such an imperialist program, the Bourbons smashed at American civil liberties, when he proclaimed a war upon the people. "Tens of thousands" will be hunted and hounded, he declared, for the "fifth column" embraces such "tens of thousands." Such an utterance is an insult to our people and an ominous threat to our labor unions.

The Democratic Party of 1940, as unveiled to public view by the poll tax statesman, is tarred with the same stick as the Republican Party. That stick was made in Wall Street, and it spells out "war and hunger" for the people.

63 More Dead—'For Safety Costs Money'

Another coal town is swept with paralyzing sorrow.

Again are weeping wives taken down into the mine drift to identify the bodies of their dead men. Now it is Portage, Pa., where this horror occurs. Sixty-three miners have been killed there—murdered, if you please.

On March 16, it was Neffs, Ohio, in the same area, with 72 killed. On January 10, it was Barkley, W. Va., and 91 miners slain.

The coal operators thus continue—this time in the person of the Mellon Family's Koppers Coal Company—to slaughter men in cold blood rather than to install effective safety devices.

If the same concern were evidenced for safety, on the part of the operators, as is shown toward the installation of labor-saving devices, there would be no tragedies such as took place at Portage. "The presence

of gas in a coal mine under conditions today is unnecessary," declared John L. Lewis in just anger, at the United Mine Workers convention in February. "It is illegal and preventable and, when an explosion occurs, as a prima facie proposition there is a violation of law in the presence of the gas."

But the coal operators—and in this case the Mellons—"want what they consider their inalienable right," as Lewis said, "to kill and butcher coal miners rather than make the mines safe—for safety costs money."

The killings at Portage constitute a cold-blooded crime. The criminals who are involved—who have brought this harvest of death in this Pennsylvania coal town—should be brought to justice. We insist that warrants be issued for their arrest and that they be put on trial forthwith. Nor can the higher-ups, who dictate this murder policy, be permitted to obtain immunity.

This blood is likewise on the hands of the Congress of the United States, including the Roosevelt administration. For months the United Mine Workers of America has been pressing the passage of the Neely-Keller bill, which would at least compel the Bureau of Mines to investigate such tragedies instead of aiding the mine operators to conceal their criminal responsibility.

With studied indifference, the House Mines and Mining Committee has refused to report this measure out on the floor of the House of Representatives, although the Senate has passed it. The White House has shown no interest in the matter, despite the horrible disasters of the past six months.

You can make a contribution to prevent further horrors of this kind by insisting that your Congressman bring pressure on the committee to report out the bill.

British Imperialism Stabs China in the Back

Great Britain's agreement to close the Burma road is exposed as the stab in the back that it is by the vigorous protest of the Chinese Ambassador in London.

It is not only that this road is essential to the ingress of arms and medical supplies so necessary in China's struggle for independence. But it represents an attempt on the part of treacherous British imperialism to coerce China into surrendering to the Japanese invaders.

For that reason the Chinese Ambassador hits the nail on the head when he characterized Britain's claim of "promoting peace" in the Far East as "adding insult to injury" upon his heroic country.

Full responsibility for this base Munich act lies upon the Churchill government which harbors, protects and aids the Chamberlain appeasement gang. At the same time that Churchill claims to be "defending democracy" against fascist aggression, he tries to deliver democratic China bound and helpless to Japanese militarism. In other words, the valiant Chinese are doing too well against their murderous enemies, so British imperialism steps in to assassinate them as they did Spain through "non-intervention."

In the United States, these same appeasement policies are being heard in both the Republican councils and the Roosevelt Administration. Walter Lippmann, the hired penman of aggressive American imperialism, is loud for the appeasement of Japan by sacrificing China.

Experience has shown that appeasement doesn't check aggression, but only sells out democracy and causes the aggressor to run wild—appeasement is a war policy. In fact, the continuous aid which Wall Street is now giving to Japan, is placing the peace and security of the American people in the Far East in the gravest jeopardy. The Administration claims to be opposed to treaty-breakers, though Japan has made hash out of the Nine-Power Treaty.

The best interests of the American people lies in close collaboration with the Soviet Union—China's only friend—to aid Chinese democracy. This new Munich requires that the American people insist, stronger than ever for an embargo against Japan and every assistance to China.

An Unfriendly Act

For the first time—thanks to the Soviet Union—the Baltic peoples now have the opportunity to express their own democratic will.

Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania had been under the domination of fascist and semi-fascist regimes for years. The peoples were victims of anti-Semitism, oppression and tyranny—but at last they have a chance for happiness and prosperity in closer relations with the Soviet Union, which has kept them out of the imperialist war.

But, under the slanderous pretext of a "Soviet invasion," the Roosevelt Administration has now "frozen" the assets of the Baltic countries in this country to keep them away from the people. Yet when Spain was really invaded and crushed by fascism, Roosevelt rushed with indecent haste to recognize the butcher Franco.

The action of the Administration is, first of all, unfriendly toward the Baltic peoples, and in violation of their expressed will. It is, also, one of many slanderous provocations against the Soviet Union at a time when the American people are recognizing increasingly that our peace and security requires closer collaboration with the Soviet Union.



CHINA BUILDS INDUSTRIES: A lithographic printing cooperative in the interior of China, beyond the reaches of the invader. Millions of Chinese are busy building new cooperative industries.



WHAT'S WHAT ABOUT THE WAR

Questions and Answers

by WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

Question: Is the United States in real danger of war?

Answer: For several years the Communist Party warned the American people of the folly of isolationist illusions, and of the war danger being raised for the United States by our Government's policy of allowing the fascist aggressors a free hand, and by following imperialist adventures of its own. We urged in the American national interest that active steps be taken jointly by our government with those of the Soviet Union and of the capitalist democratic countries to save the independence of China, Spain and Czechoslovakia, and to preserve world peace by forming a great international front of all the democratic peoples.

But the Roosevelt Administration, abetted by the Republicans in Congress, chose to ignore these timely Communist proposals and warnings. Instead, it aided Hitler and Mussolini in Spain by betraying that democracy into their hands; it strengthened Japan by furnishing it with munitions with which to make war on China; it developed aggressive policies in various parts of the world; it ignored the urgent pleas of the Soviet Union for a great peace front. The general result of this reactionary course, which dovetailed with the appeasement policy of Chamberlain and Daladier, is the present imperialist war: with Germany and Italy terrorizing Europe, with Japan running wild in Asia, and with the German, Italian and Japanese dictators greedily eyeing the rich resources of Latin America. The warnings of the Communist Party have come true.

The extension of the imperialist war, the sweeping victories of the fascist powers, and, above all, the imperialist policies of the Roosevelt Administration, are sharply increasing the danger of this country becoming involved in the war. The war-mongers, however, carefully ignore that the imperialism of the Roosevelt government is the main source of war danger to this country and they hysterically paint the war danger as originating solely in threats from abroad. They are trying to throw the country into a war panic and under cover of this to rush through American imperialism's gigantic plan of militarization, misnamed a defense policy, which has for its objectives a reactionary dictatorship in the United States and imperialist aggressions abroad.

The Democratic and Republican parties are both war parties. They are deeply responsible for the present dangerous world spread of imperialism and fascism. Consequently they cannot be trusted to defeat these dangers in their new and more menacing forms. What the American people need in order to protect themselves in this war-torn world is to build up a great new peace party which will have as its purposes: (a) to strengthen their own democracy against all attempts of the American economic royalists to destroy it from within; (b) to support the democratic forces in Latin America and, jointly guarding the hemisphere with them, carefully avoiding infringing upon the national independence of the various republics; (c) to stop supporting British imperialism, appeasing German imperialism, and aiding militarist Japan; (d) to enter into active collaboration with the Soviet Union, the Chinese and Indian nations, the various vanquished peoples, and the democratic forces in England, Germany, Italy

and Japan, for the reestablishment of a just and lasting world peace. Unless the peace-loving American people, through a mass party of their own and by active support of the Communist Party find the ways to reverse the present warlike course of the government, then, indeed the menace of Hitlerism to the American people will grow acute, both in the shape of war abroad and of a developing fascism within the U. S.

Question: What is the matter with the Second International that it is being wiped out in one capitalist country after another?

Answer: The extensive bureaucracy of officials who everywhere dominate the political parties, trade unions, and cooperatives of world Social Democracy and dictate their policies is fundamentally a part of bourgeois democracy and is declining with that democracy. While capitalism was strong and the capitalists were willing, under relatively mild working class pressure, to concede some measure of democracy to pacify the workers, the Social Democratic bureaucracy and the broad movements it controlled, as the instruments of these capitalist concessions, grew and flourished. But, beginning about the World War period, capitalism began to sink into its general crisis and bourgeois democracy became increasingly dangerous to it, offering as it did to the increasingly rebellious workers a means whereby to attack the capitalists and their system. Therefore, finance capitalism, turning more and more to a policy of fascism and war, set out to destroy bourgeois democracy, and with it the Social Democracy as an organized mass movement.

In this dangerous situation the sole hope for these mass movements of the working class—political parties, trade unions and cooperatives—was to adopt a policy of militant class struggle, for the people's front and for Socialism, as the Communist International constantly pointed out. But the Social Democratic Bureaucracy, wedded to capitalism, would hear nothing of this policy. Instead, the Social Democracy continued to follow the will-to-the-wisp of bourgeois democracy. As bourgeois democracy declined in the European countries, the Social Democracy went down with it. The Social Democratic bureaucrats faithfully followed the liberal wing of the bourgeoisie into historical oblivion. While this process was going on the Social Democracy fought all the Communist's efforts to turn the masses towards a policy of class struggle, and thereby it prepared the way for fascism. After the victory of fascism in a number of countries and the smashup of the Social Democratic mass organizations, which the dominant fascist capitalists had no further use for, the Social Democratic leaders gave assistance to the new fascist rulers against all revolutionary struggles of the workers. This is the story of the Social Democracy in Germany, Austria, Italy, Poland, Scandinavia, etc., and it is now being repeated in England and France.

The tragedy of this is that it has caused crushing defeats to the great mass organizations—political, economic, cooperative—which the Social Democratic workers so laboriously built up through two generations of hard work. It has also enabled the capitalists to establish their naked and brutal fascist dictatorships. But the defeat of the Social Democracy does not mean the defeat of Socialism, as Norman Thomas and others of his type declare. It signifies the world bank-

ruptcy of social reformism. The real forces making against imperialism and fascism and for democracy and Socialism, are not the remnants of the Second International; they are the Soviet Union; the workers all over the world, who are more and more getting rid of bourgeois ideological influences and are increasingly following the lead of the Communists; the great colonial liberation movements of China and India, and the many oppressed and invaded nations. These powerful anti-capitalist forces are growing constantly stronger, more unified, and more clear-sighted, as the capitalist system sinks deeper and deeper into its general crisis and becomes ever weaker. It is these vast democratic masses, travelling along the path of revolutionary struggle indicated by Lenin, that are going to put an end to capitalism and all its horrors, and start humanity on the Socialist road to peace, freedom and prosperity.

Question: Is this an imperialist war between rival ideologies of bourgeois democracy and fascism?

Answer: It is an imperialist war. This means that it is a war among the great capitalist states—Germany, England, Japan, France and Italy, with the United States moving in—over the redivision of the world's markets, raw materials, territories and populations. It is this imperialist struggle, not the fact that some of the belligerents have a democratic form of government while others are fascist dictatorships, that determines the character of the war. The war is basically a clash of imperialist interests, not of bourgeois ideologies.

Under certain circumstances the imperialist war, however, could be transformed into a revolutionary war by the masses' strength against capitalism. This strength might develop into war through an attack of one or more capitalist powers upon the U. S. S. R., an attack which would unleash the revolutionary forces in a great counter-offensive. This possibility is by no means excluded from the present world situation. During several years the fascist axis on one side, and the Allies on the other, realizing that war was approaching, tried to give it the nature of an anti-Soviet, counter-revolutionary war. But they could not agree amongst themselves about the matter, so the present war among the imperialists developed instead. After the imperialist war began Great Britain and France continued their efforts to transform it into a general capitalist war against the Soviet Union, a reactionary enterprise in which they received active but unavailing support from the United States Government during the Soviet-Finnish conflict.

Or the present imperialist war might develop into a revolutionary war upon the initiative of the masses themselves. Such a war might develop out of a revolution or a deep-going people's front movement in France or England, which the Soviet Government would support. This situation could well result in the workers of various countries, the many oppressed national minorities and vanquished nations, and the great colonial peoples making common cause with the Soviet Union against the capitalist empires. Such a war would almost certainly shatter important sections of the capitalist system and lead to a wide extension of Socialism.

Letters From Our Readers

Condemns Vandalism of WPA Administrator

Providence, R. I.

Editor, Daily Worker:

By what authority does Brehon B. Somervell destroy public property that was paid for by government funds? Who is he to judge art or to condemn the work of qualified artists?

Destruction of public property—government property—is punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.
J. R.

Dangerous Attacks on Unity Of American People

Bronx, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The American capitalists who are driving toward fascism and fascist aggression are striving to divide and weaken the unity of the forces for democracy and peace of the American people. In the labor movement, for instance they are trying to divide and weaken the CIO with the help of their agents, such as Hillman, etc., to seize control of it to support its actions.

In the youth movement the action of Rabbi Wise, The Jewish Social Democrats in ousting the Jewish Youth organization which supports the American Youth Congress and the splitting attempts of Gene Tunney to divide and weaken the AYC are both part of the same plan.

Such attacks, sabotage, disruption against the labor movement and the youth movement on the part of the capitalists' agents are dangerous to the unity of the American people for peace, democracy and security.
S. S.

Gen. Pershing's "Equal Footing" Hypocrisies

Somerville, Mass.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Can we not have a series of articles in the Daily Worker on more clearly General Pershing's "equal footing" hypocrisies about the compulsory military training bill, etc., such as Alan Max's comment in "Point of Order" the other day?

Only collegians are eligible for the "50,000 pilots" phase of preparedness. Ergo, the non-collegians can have (or must take) the non-aviation fields.

In its purely material aspects the non-collegian gets \$5.00 per month during training and \$21.00 per month during active service. The flying collegians get about \$70 monthly during training and about the same weekly as second lieutenants during active service.

May have missed this point in the Daily but surely it and others like it can bear repetition.
D. G.

A Brazen Act

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Your cartoon regarding Somervell's destruction of the murals is an accurate picture of this brazen and stupid act.

But as the Artists Union has pointed out Somervell has deliberately and without apparent authority, destroyed public property. Somervell has committed by his own admission a serious act against public or government-owned property. Here was the work of several years, costing the government thousands of dollars in labor and material costs. The Government has the authority, and the duty to take action against him.

It represents the challenge of someone who has always despised the cultural projects, the unions, and every other progressive feature of WPA. He has openly stated this hatred, and the destruction of the murals is his most brazen act to liquidate all of the WPA professional and white collar projects. His next step would then be the other unions which he hates with equal fury.
A FORMER W.P.A. WORKER.

A Birthday Gift From C. P. Branch to Mother Bloor

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

We sent the following letter to Mother Bloor: "The Danny Shupin Branch of the Communist Party of Brownsville sends revolutionary greetings to you on your 78th birthday."

"We greet you today at a time when our Party is showing more than ever that it is true to the principles of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin; that it is the vanguard of the working class."

"We are a branch who give you as a birthday gift 15 new recruits to our Party, since April 1, and pledge as a further gift to you to recruit many more new members."

DANNY SHUPIN BRANCH
COMMUNIST PARTY.

Warns of Economic Crisis from Present Capitalist Program

New York City.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Fifty-thousand airplanes a year require 500,000 men to pilot and service them. An equalized increase in the other branches of the Army and Navy in addition would require an estimated armed force of two million men. It is estimated that the cost per soldier in the Army is \$1,000 so that the cost of such an army to the people in taxation would be two billion a year. Twenty billion dollars have already been appropriated on the war drive demand of President Roosevelt.

This money is being used for the production of services and materials having neither exchange or use value.

Terrific economic crisis under the present capitalist program is not far off.
M. C.

"A Mind in Full Intellectual Retreat"

New York City.

Editor, Daily Worker:

That the President is plunging this country deep into a hellish crater of military preparedness, the kind of "preparedness" that is playing havoc with every political, economic and spiritual value and institution, nobody can doubt any more in view of his repeated requests to Congress for appropriations of billions of dollars, stupendous sums these, that will be a crushing burden even upon generations of Americans still unborn.

Undoubtedly, when John L. Lewis characterized the President's proposal for the militarization of youth as coming from "a mind in full intellectual retreat," he expressed the naked truth about Mr. Roosevelt.

"For guns, tanks, planes and munitions to equip an army of 2,000,000 mechanized men," give us billions, and more billions of dollars is the President's hysterical cry of the hour!
A. G. D.

Alan Max is on vacation. His column "Point of Order" will be resumed when he returns.

Foot in a Spittoon Causes Black Eye

By Mike Quin

"TURN your mug around and let's see it," said Mr. Murphy. Mr. O'Brien, slowly and semi-shamefully exposed his face to a quick glance, then jerked it back into concealment.

"Some shiner! Who gave it to you?"

"You should see him," said O'Brien. "They tell me I fractured his jaw."

"Who?"

"Danny Malone. I've been aching to take a smack at him for years."

"So now you're satisfied. Turn 'round here. Can you see out of it at all?"

"It's nothing," said O'Brien, nursing a great mound of black and purple in which the eye was entirely obscured.

"You're sure he didn't kick you in the face?"

"I was not down, Murphy," said O'Brien indignantly. "I was not down once. You should see Malone. His teeth were all over the floor. I hit him once, then I hit him again, then I gave him low ones into the body. Crack! went something. It was either his watch or a rib. Then my foot got stuck in a spittoon."

"Just the same, you look like hell."

"Twas my foot in the spittoon, Murphy. I looked to see who had me by the leg. Then Malone hit me slightly."

"Slightly was it? 'Tis a good thing it wasn't hard or he'd knocked the head off your neck."

"I've been wanting to smack him for years. I'll show him."

"I thought you just showed him."

"Well, I did show him. But my foot got caught in the spittoon."

"Aye! 'Tis strange savagery," mused Murphy.

"Oh indeed! And what was that you and Donovan were doing at the picnic when you lambasted each other 'till the devil himself couldn't tell who won or lost?"

"I'm a savage myself, O'Brien. But a savage can reflect upon his own savagery and be amazed. 'Tis thus that civilization moves forward."

"Leave me alone, Murphy. 'Tis my black eye, not yours, and you've no right to philosophize on it."

"Just the same, O'Brien, if humanity could grasp the philosophy of a black eye, how few our troubles would be."

"Aye, and if humanity would stop getting its foot caught in spittoons there'd be less black eyes."

"'Tis not the spittoon that's at fault, O'Brien. What is it that makes men want to hit other people in the face with their knuckles, knock their teeth out, black their eyes, hurt them and beat them to the floor?"

"'Tis a way of settling arguments and showing who is the better man."

"I know a little man, O'Brien, who loses all fights. Yet he has a way of giving the winner a devil of a lot of trouble and usually sends him home with so many cuts, bruises and broken bones that the victory is a very sour and painful one."

"Aye! There's little to it but the satisfaction."

"And the satisfaction is nothing. 'Tis like two men lying in hospital beds congratulating themselves on the injuries of each other."

"I don't always understand what you're talking about, Murphy."

"When we get mad at a man, the desire rises in us to hurt his flesh and bones and humiliate him with defeat. And as he lies there on the floor all bloody and battered, we expect to be cheered and patted on the back, for we imagine it shows we are right and the licked man is unworthy. And there's no sense in it, O'Brien."

"Not if you get your foot caught in a spittoon."

"Irregardless of spittoons, O'Brien. Take war for instance, with all its airplanes and cannon. 'Tis nothing but a means of hurting another man's flesh and bones, tearing his skin, making him bleed, and killing him if possible."

"'Tis not the same, Murphy. In a war, the men are not mad at each other. They don't even know each other. 'Tis a matter of principles and courage and showing they are not afraid."

"True indeed, O'Brien. There is more sense in a barroom brawl than in a war. And there's more civilization too. When a man gets mad at another and is overcome with the crazy urge to knock his teeth out, he is responding to an ancient instinct. With the savages it was an urge to kill. We've got over that mostly. You don't want to kill Danny Malone, for instance."

"God forbid, Murphy! I had no such idea."

"You just wanted to knock his teeth out."

"By heaven, Murphy, you have a way of making a thing sound foolish. I just wanted to take a smack at him, that's all."

"'Tis strange savagery, but less strange than war."

"I wonder, Murphy, if there's ever any sense in taking a smack at anyone?"

"Aye! There is, O'Brien. But not for a barroom brawl, and not for a crazy war. The world is badly messed up right now and the working people want to straighten it out and live good-naturally. But it looks like they're going to have to give something an awful smack in the puss before they can do it."

"A sort of a last smack, so to speak."

"A last smack, O'Brien, and heaven help those who have their feet caught in spittoons."

Sender Garlin is on vacation. "Constant Reader" will be resumed when he returns.

Armstrong-Jenkins Fight Over WJZ at 10 P. M.

Stadium concert will be broadcast over WABC at 9:30 tonight. At 10, sport fans will hear the description of the non-title fight between Henry Armstrong and Lew Jenkins over WJZ.

SHORTWAVE BAND
Radio Center, Moscow, 6:00 P. M. Italian, 7:54 M. C. 7:00 P. M. Spanish, 7:54, 13:04 M. C. 8:00 P. M. English, 9:30, 12:00, 13:04 M. C.
Voice of China, Chungking, China, 9:30 P. M. 12:3 M. C.

BROADCAST BAND DAILY PROGRAMS
MORNING
6:45-WNYC-News
7:00-WABC-Woman's Page of the Air
7:15-WNYC-Around New York Today
7:30-WJZ-AP News
7:45-WNYC-Masterwork Hour
8:00-WNYC-Condensed News
8:15-WNYC-Woman of Tomorrow
8:30-WNYC-Compendium Hour
8:45-WNYC-News About Women
9:00-WNYC-News
9:15-WNYC-News
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